

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 NIC-01 SAJ-01 SAB-01 IO-14 EB-11

COME-00 SCI-06 FEA-02 INT-08 CIEP-02 OMB-01 AID-20

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FM AMEMBASSY DACCA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2077

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, BG, IN

SUBJECT: TITO VISIT TO BANGLADESH

REF: DELHI 1596; STATE 21560

SUMMARY: THE JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT END OF TITO'S 3-DAY VISIT WAS BLAND, WITH EVEN Milder REFERENCE TO SUMMONING A NONALIGNED MEETING AT AN "APPROPRIATE LEVEL" THAN IN DELHI COMMUNIQUE. IT CONTAINED NO REFERENCE TO THE SPECIAL UNGA SESSION ON THE WORLD ECONOMY WHICH TITO ADVOCATED IN HIS ADDRESS TO THE BANGLADESH PARLIAMENT. DESPITE THE BDG'S LACK OF ENTHUSIASM, HOWEVER, TITO THROUGHOUT HIS VISIT SINGLEMINDEDLY PURSUED HIS THEME OF CONCERTED ACTION BY NONALIGNED COUNTRIES TO RESOLVE WORLD ECONOMIC PROBLEMS. WHILE BDG PROVIDED WARM AND SINCERE WELCOME TO TITO, ITS FAILURE TO FULLY ENDORSE HIS PROPOSALS LIKELY REFLECTS THE DESIRE BILATERALLY TO SEEK OIL SUPPLIES WHERE IT CAN AND ALSO A HESITANCY TO ENDORSE THE USE OF THE UN FORUM, OF WHICH IT IS NOT YET A MEMBER.

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END SUMMARY.

1. THE COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE END OF TITO'S JANUARY 29-FEB 2 VISIT EMPHASIZED THE IDENTITY OF VIEWS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES ON INTERNATIONAL ISSUES. PREDICTABLY, THE COMMUNIQUE EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER THE WIDENING GAP BETWEEN DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, CONDEMNED THE POLICIES OF "FORCE AND DOMINATION" AND OF COLONIALISM, AND BLAMED ISRAEL FOR THE MIDDLE EAST WAR AND SAIGON FOR VIOLATING THE PARIS AGREEMENT. IT EXPRESSES THE CONVICTION THAT "DETENTE AND PEACE SHOULD EMBRACE THE WHOLE WORLD." THE TWO SIDES RESOLVED TO IMPLEMENT THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE ALGIERS SUMMIT CONFERENCE, PARTICULARLY THOSE RELATED TO ECONOMIC COOPERATION. HOWEVER, IN THIS REGARD, THEY AGREED ONLY THAT "AN EARLY MEETING OF THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NONALIGNED COUNTRIES SHOULD BE HELD AT AN APPROPRIATE LEVEL."

2. IN CONTRAST TO THE MILDNESS OF THE COMMUNIQUE, TITO IN HIS SPEECH TO THE BANGLADESH PARLIAMENT JANUARY 31 SHARPLY CONDEMNED THE DEVELOPED WORLD AND REACTIONARY FORCES. HE ADVOCATED THROUGHOUT THE NEED FOR JOINT ACTION BY THE NONALIGNED NATIONS AND FOR A FUNDAMENTAL CHANGE IN INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS. HE PLACED GREAT IMPORTANCE ON THE HOLDING OF A SPECIAL SESSION OF UNGA ON THE WORLD ECONOMIC SITUATION, TO WHICH THE NONALIGNED WOULD SUBMIT THOROUGHLY ELABORATED PROPOSALS. UNGA GATHERING WOULD GIVE IMPETUS TO RESOLVING DEVELOPMENT, MONETARY, AND OTHER URGENT ECONOMIC PROBLEMS. THE PROPOSALS OF THE NONALIGNED SHOULD ALSO CONTRIBUTE TO THE FORTHCOMING WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE. ACCORDING TO TITO, ACTION HAS ALREADY BEEN INITIATED TOWARD HOLDING A CONFERENCE OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES ON PRIMARY PRODUCTS AS RECOMMENDED BY THE ALGIERS SUMMIT. HE EMPHASIZED THAT CONDITIONS HAVE BEEN CREATED TO OVERCOME "BLOC AND OTHER WORLD DIVISION" AND THAT RECENT EVENTS, PARTICULARLY IN THE MIDDLE EAST, HAVE CONFIRMED THAT DETENTE COULD OFFER LASTING RESULTS ONLY IF IT BECAME A UNIVERSAL PROCESS.

3. ON THE BILATERAL LEVEL, THE COMMUNIQUE STRESSED THE WARM RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES, YUGOSLAVIA'S APPRECIATION OF BANGLADESH'S EFFORTS TO BUILD A NEW SOCIAL AND POLITICAL STRUCTURE, AND ITS SUPPORT FOR BD'S ENTRY INTO THE UN. ALTHOUGH IN THE COMMUNIQUE YUGOSLAVIA OFFERED ALL POSSIBLE COOPERATION IN THE LONG TERM ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF BANGLADESH AND EXTENSIVE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DISCUSSIONS WERE HELD, NO SPECIFIC AID AGREEMENTS RESULTED FROM THE VISIT.

4. TITO IS CONSIDERED HERE AN EARLY CHAMPION OF BENGALEE LIBERATION AND WAS WARMLY FETED THROUGHOUT HIS VISIT. THIS SENTIMENT WAS EVIDENTLY RECIPROCATED BY TITO. IN EXTEMPORANEOUS REMARKS AT A CIVIC RECEPTION, TITO EXPRESSED PERSONAL BITTERNESS THAT THE WORLD HAD BEEN "INDIFFERENT" TO THE LIBERATION STRUGGLE WHILE

MILLIONS WERE BEING KILLED. IN A CRYPTIC STATEMENT SEIZED UPON BY THE OPPOSITION PRESS HERE AS CONFIRMATION OF FOREIGN CONSPIRACIES IN BANGLADESH, TITO SAID THAT "ATTEMPTS ARE BEING MADE TO DENY YBQ THE RIGHT TO BE MASTERS IN YOUR OWN COUNTRY." DESPITE ALL THE WARMTH AND CORDIALITY, HOWEVER, THE BDG FAILED TO GIVE TITO MUCH SUPPORT FOR HIS PERSONAL INITIATIVES. WE SUSPECT THAT BANGLADESH CHOOSES TO PURSUE ITS OWN BILATERAL EFFORTS TO MEET ITS IMMEDIATE CRUDE OIL NEEDS AND TO SEEK AID DIRECTLY FROM THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES FOR ITS LARGER ECONOMIC NEEDS. ASIDE FROM THE FACT THAT IT WOULD NOT PROMOTE A FORUM OF WHICH IT IS NOT YET A MEMBER, BDG AT THIS STAGE IS UNLIKELY TO WISH TO SEE ITS OWN REQUIREMENTS SUBMERGED IN A POOR VS RICH CONFRONTATION WITHIN THE UN. ALTHOUGH THE LOCAL PRESS HIGHLIGHTED ALGERIAN AND IRAQI PROPOSALS FOR UNGA SESSION AND HEADLINED TITO'S SIMILAR PROPOSAL, BY AND LARGE THE PRESS PUBLICIZED THE VISIT IN TERMS OF POTENTIAL YUGOSLAV AID TO BANGLADESH.
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